

## THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
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DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
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SUBJECT: Military Families Appreciation Week

I am pleased to designate the week of November 18-25 as "Military Families Appreciation Week" in the Department of Defense. Since the events of September 11, our military families have been and will continue to be called upon to support their military service members and the military community in new and challenging ways. Our military families, active and Reserve, make extraordinary contributions to the strength of America's military community in peacetime or in crisis. We take great pride in the valuable support families give to enhance the well-being of our armed forces and want to take this opportunity to recognize their service to their community and their nation.

As we celebrate Military Families Appreciation Week, I offer my personal thanks to each member of the military family. Please join me in saluting these very special people.

Rul R-fl